The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matter; affecting labor, concerning the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post-Office at Washington, D.C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 14 NO. 31. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1924. WHOLE NO. 706.

## REACTION IS FURIOUS AT LABOR'S SOLIDARITY

"The supreme court must not be criticised and A. F. of L. officials can not deliver the labor vote," is reaction's warning to labor in the closing days of the campaign.

Reaction is well aware that the only attempt to deliver the labor vote is by those who would dull the workers' conscience and confuse their judgment.

The offense of A. F. of L. officials is that they have presented the records of all candidates and have drawn the deadly parallel on the three political platforms.

Comparisons of the old-party candidates with La Follette and Wheeler is to the disadvantage of the former. Therein is the reason for reaction's ragings.

If A. F. of L. officials failed to be true to their trust, and if they ignored history in their discussions of the supreme court, they would be praised without stint.

In its defense of the supreme court, privilege has reached the zero point. Reaction would have the public believe that present-day criticisms of the court are original; that in no other period have the American people challenged court usurpation.

The contrary is true. Compared with other days, the court critics of today are mild.

Thomas Jefferson said that the judiciary are the sappers and miners of the constitution.

Most vigorous attacks on the supreme court followed its Dred Scott decision, wherein it held that a slave is property.

On March 3, 1858, Senator Sumner of Massachusetts declared on the floor of the senate that the people "never will accept principles so unconstitutional and abhorrent," and that "the supreme court can reverse its judgment more easily than we can reconcile the people to its usurpation."

For this speech Senator Sumner was assailed as venomously by the slaveholders and their northern defenders as are the progressives of 1924.

History is replete with instances where members of congress and private citizens have criticised the supreme court far more vigorously than today.

In his debates with Senator Douglass, Abraham Lincoln frequently charged that the Dred Scott decision was the result of an understanding with Chief Justice Taney, Douglass and Buchanan before the latter was elected president. Documentary evidence supports this charge.

No worker need be alarmed at the outbursts of reaction when the supreme court is criticised because of its anti-child labor decisions.

The reactionary of 1924 is using the same methods as the reactionary of other days.

When A. F. of L. officials are charged with "attempting to deliver the labor vote," it is a sure sign that privilege is alarmed.

It is the best evidence that labor has read the records and the platforms of all candidates and is standing solidly for La Follette and progress.

## Borah Praises Postal Wage Veto; Ignores Increase To $5,000-Men

Washington, Oct. 18.—In an open telegram to Senator Borah, Thos. F. Flaherty, secretary-treasurer of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, reminds the Idaho statesman that when he praised President Coolidge for vetoing the postal employees' wage bill, he overlooked the presidential approval of a bill increasing the pay of political assistants of the postmaster general 50 per cent, or from $5,000 a year to $7,500. Senator Borah, together with Senators Pepper and Willis of Ohio cast the three senate votes against the postal wage bill.

Secretary Flaherty tells Senator Borah that the principle involved in both bills is the same—a pay raise for employes to come out of the postal revenues. President Coolidge approved the $2,500 increase and disapproved the $300 increase. The text of the Flaherty telegram follows:

"In the press quotes from you referring to President Coolidge's veto of the postal pay bill on June 7 as a courageous act. Are you aware the president signed a bill on April 4 which increased the pay of $5,000-a-year postal officials of the first assistantship to $7,500, and other salary increases proportionally to higher officials, all to be paid from postal revenues? He made no mention then of protecting taxpayers and preventing enlistment of postal revenues. His courageous interest, which you laud, in behalf of taxpayers only manifested itself when the proposal to increase lower-paid postal workers came before him on June 7.

"I might suggest you hereafter qualify your praise of courage of the president by expressing regret he saw fit to display it at the expense of lower paid workers seeking a $300 pay increase after approving $2,500 salary increases for high political appointees in the department. Both propositions identical in principle—a pay increase to be paid from postal revenues.

"I can see nothing praiseworthy in the president's denial to the low-paid workers the generous consideration he showed to relatively high paid officials."

## PEOPLE ARE ABOVE COURTS, THEODORE ROOSEVELT HELD

Washington, Oct. 18.—Patriotic societies will observe the birthday of Theodore Roosevelt—October 27—with appropriate exercises, but how many of these will call attention to his opposition to court usurpation?

How many will refer to the plank in his 1912 platform for a popular review of judicial decisions, and to his notable speech before the Ohio constitutional convention on February 21, 1912, in which he said:

"Now, the power to interpret is the power to establish; and, if the people are not to be allowed finally to interpret the fundamental law, ours is not a popular government. The true view is that legislators and judges alike are the servants of the people, who have been created by the people, just as the people have created the constitution; and they have no more right to say the people have, for the time being, delegated to them. If these two sets of public servants disagree as to the amounts of power respectively delegated to them by the people under the constitution, and if the case is of sufficient importance, then, as a matter of course, it should be the right of the people themselves to decide between them.

"I do not say that the people are infallible. But I do say that our whole history shows that the American people are more often sound in their decisions than is the case with any of the governmental bodies to whom, for their convenience, they have delegated portions of their power. If this is not so, then there is no justification for the existence of our government; and if it is so, then there is no justification for refusing to give the people the real, and not merely the nominal, ultimate decision on questions of constitutional law. Just as the people, and not the supreme court, under Chief Justice Taney, were wise in their decisions of the vital questions of their day, so I hold that now the American people as a whole have shown themselves wiser than the courts in the way they have approached and dealt with such vital questions of our day as those concerning the proper control of big corporations and of securing their rights to industrial workers."

## Education Must Follow Less Hours

By FANNIA M. COHN,
Secretary, Educational Department, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

There was a time when leisure was equivalent to idleness, and we are still victims of our attitude toward work and leisure. More and more workers realize now that it is precisely in these times that we can accomplish something for ourselves and for mankind; during working hours we are part of the machine which we operate. With the reduction of working hours, our opportunity for intellectual and physical development increases.

The first use for leisure is rest. We can never overestimate its importance. Resting does not always mean complete inactivity. A change of occupation is the rest of a real, both physical and mental, as complete relaxation.

The movement for workers' education within the trade unions is the outgrowth of changed conditions in industry. The decreased working hours stimulate in the workers a desire for intellectual effort. It behooves the organized labor movement to satisfy this desire. It is the duty of labor organizations to provide educational activities for every group of its membership.

Through the principle of collective effort—which the trade union offers—we are learning to secure more of the good things of life than we could obtain if each lived for himself.

Education in the trade unions offers something vital and inspiring, something concrete as well as theoretical, something for the heart and the mind as well as for the mind. The workers learn facts that are not found in books. They gain a new hope and courage for themselves and their union.

The future of our labor movement depends upon the increasing intelligence of its members. The happiness of the individual worker depends upon his greater understanding of himself and of the world he lives in. An independent mind and the ability to form an opinion do not come merely from attending lectures, but through what others have to say. Self-activity is essential for physical and mental growth.

The trade union member is beginning to recognize more and more the value of knowledge and the longer for education and the leisure to enable him to gain it.

The courses in workers' classes and the reading in connection with them should be thought-provoking. But mental food as well as physical food must be well balanced. Courses in literature and poetry are beautiful and interesting, but they must be balanced by books and courses on the social sciences, such as history, economics, sociology and psychology.

Use part of your leisure for education. It is a good investment. Those who learn become imbued with high ideals, with devotion to the working class, with readiness to serve it, and with faith in its ultimate goal—those who dream of the society that is to be will be filled with the joy of living. They have the ability to contribute their part in hastening the dawn of a new day.

## HATE PROPAGANDA CONVICTS STRIKERS

Washington, Oct. 18.—The United States supreme court has declined to order a review of the conviction of Needles, Calif., railroad workers who refused to man defective equipment during the shop men's strike of 1922.

The employes were convicted on the ground that they conspired to obstruct interstate commerce and the mails. In the trial court the workers insisted that their refusal to man the equipment was to protect life and enforce improved working conditions and this intent did not constitute a conspiracy against the government. Attorney General Daugherty started the proceedings, and the conspiracy verdict has been upheld by the various courts, and is now practically upheld by the supreme court.

The trial hinged on the motive of the workers. The government insisted that it was a plot against transportation and a jury established this position. The government was aided by a hate propaganda conducted through the public press. Lurid charges were made that the workers abandoned trains on an Arizona desert causing hardship to women and children.

After this propaganda served its purpose, the Santa Fe railroad management called on all station agents and other officials to assure the people these statements were incorrect and that Needles, Calif., a town of 5,000 population, has first class hotels.

### RAIL PROFITS HIGH

Chicago, Oct. 18.—Organized railway clerks ask the railroad labor board to make good its pledge to "give increased consideration to the scientific adjustment of a living wage and a saving wage" when the financial condition of railroads justify such a policy.

The rates established in 1920 were reduced by the board during the 1921-1922 depression. President FitzGerald of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks quoted figures that railroad profits in the last 12 years total $12,000,000,000, and are now showing approximately $1,000,000,000 a year.

Representatives of 58 railroads, including subsidiaries and terminal companies, oppose the clerks' demand.

### WANT FREE NIGHT SCHOOLS

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 18.—The trades and labor council objects to a charge that public school night schools must pay. These schools are conducted by the public school authorities. The unionists insist that adults should be encouraged to attend these schools, rather than tax them.

### MACHINISTS ORGANIZING

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 18.—Machinists in this city are conducting a successful organizing campaign. The movement is being directed by the machinists' district council.

### CARBON MONOXIDE KILLS THOUSANDS

New York, Oct. 18.—Carbon monoxide poisoning is claiming more deaths in all modern countries than any other cause except deaths from vehicular traffic in New York city, said Dr. Charles Norris, in addressing a national association of police surgeons and medical directors.

"Carbon monoxide poisoning is a disease of industrial life, as in coal mines and among workers about gas machines," the speaker said. "It also claims more victims as regards health and life than any other poison.

"In closed spaces, as in garages, it is certain many fatal accidents occur yearly that are not recorded in mortuary statistics. A recent investigation showed that a small car produces one, and larger cars or trucks two, cubic feet of monoxide per minute, and when an engine is running idle with doors closed the atmosphere of a space large enough to hold a car is contaminated to a dangerous extent."

### OPPOSE INJUNCTIONS

Cincinnati, Oct. 18.—"I am running for this office to make a demonstration against government by injunction," said Nicholas Klein, lawyer of this city and candidate for short term of the state supreme court.

"Short as my term will be I intend to devote every moment of it to the task of bringing to the people of our state an understanding of the outrage that inheres in the whole system of government by injunction and my words will not soon be forgotten by judges."

### BARBERS ORGANIZE

Homer, Okla., Oct. 18.—Barbers at this place have organized and are affiliated with the Journeymen Barbers' International union.

### BUS TRANSPORTATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL

Atlantic City, Oct. 18.—The bus as a transportation medium in large cities is not proving a menace to electric railways, according to delegates to the American electric railway association convention. Few bus lines either owned by street railway companies or by independent operators, are breaking even, it was said.

The electric railway is making inroads on the short haul traffic of many railroads. The movement of freight on electric railways, particularly on interurban lines in the middle west in recent years, is enormous, it was stated.

### WILL MINERS LOSE VOTE BY EVICTION PLOT?

Morgantown, W. Va., Oct. 18.—Anti-union coal operators are charged with plotting to deprive union miners of the right to vote by evicting them from their homes, and thus driving them out of the state, when striking miners are alert to this danger, and are arranging to protect their ballot.

Leaders of the city council promise to issue injunctions against the miners.

### OIL PROFITS INTO MILLIONS

New York, Oct. 18.—The Union oil company of California reports a profit of $9,000,000 for the first nine months of 1924. This is after interest, depreciation, taxes and depletion, though other charges have been covered. These profits have been made with a gross production of more than 2,100,000 barrels of oil in the nine-months' period.

### FOOD COSTS GO UP

Washington, Oct. 18.—Reports by the United States bureau of labor statistics do not indicate that living costs are decreasing. During August 15 to September 15, 1924, 29 of the 21 cities studied showed increases ranging from 1 to 3 per cent. The 2 per cent cities are Bridgeport, Phil River, Mobile and New Haven.

## GEORGIA ILLITERACY REACHES HIGH FIGURE

Atlanta, Oct. 18.—The Georgia illiteracy commission has started a statewide campaign against illiteracy in this state. The number of men and women who can not read or write is astounding. According to the last census there are 70,000 whites and 200,000 negroes, or a total of 270,000 Georgia citizens who can neither read nor write. Added to this condition are hundreds of teachers who themselves have not received a grammar education, and hundreds of school rooms in which the light of day can scarcely penetrate, while textile mills destroy the lives of other children.

Recently the Georgia legislature rejected the federal child labor amendment by a practically unanimous vote. These representatives of a state where illiteracy is rampant declared that the amendment would "destroy the parental control of the child."

Jerome Jones, editor of the Atlanta Journal of Labor, is leading the fight against illiteracy and for protection of the child. In smashing editorials he scores the Georgia legislature, and declares that child labor and illiteracy are twin inseparable evils that blight the development of this state.

"We can not grow literates by simply teaching people to read and write," thunders the veteran labor editor. "We must give to them not only the fundamentals of an education, but the thorough grounding in educational principles—and this all the children of Georgia are not receiving today.

"We must begin right if we would fight illiteracy. We must realize that this demon shall not devour the childhood of the state. It is indeed laudable to obliterate it in adults, but it is more glorious to see that there shall be no adults in the future who shall need to be taught."

## TOTS MADE HOMELESS BY INJUNCTION WRIT

Charleston, W. Va., Oct. 18.—While workers in this state are asked to vote for a continuance of injunctions and gun man rule by the pleaders for Coolidge and Davis, hundreds of miners are thrown on the highways, while homeless little children are hungry, chilless and clothes in rags. Hundreds of destitute families are living in tents because union miners refuse to accept "yellow dog" contracts and industrial serfdom.

Many of these families are within a few miles of the capitol, and the state, says the West Virginia Federationist. This labor publication calls on those in the Kanawha Valley, Cabin Creek, Cinco, Perryville and other points on Campbell's Creek, just above this city; Montgomery, Smithers, Eskdale or any mining town in the Kanawha field. Little children are denied the necessities of existence, suffering for lack of clothing, shoes and books. This condition also prevails in many other sections of the state.

"While knowing these facts, not another newspaper in West Virginia has raised a voice in protest. Not a public official has made an effort to relieve the suffering of the little tots, but all are in full accord with the unconscionable and publicly denounced the infamous system that is responsible for its existence.

"Both old parties are equally guilty of maintaining the system through the use of the police and the state injunction judges they elect and support for that purpose. The same gentleman who exists in Democratic Logan county maintains in Republican McDowell county, and Judge Kanawha, Fayette, Raleigh, Braxton, Putnam, Boone, Lincoln, Mingo, Wyoming and other counties."

## JUDICIAL USURPERS AGAIN SHOW POWER

San Francisco, Oct. 18.—The state supreme court decision denying La Follette-Wheeler electors a place on the California ballot is another lesson to the people of this state on judicial usurpation.

The law provides that "a candidate for any public office" may be nominated by petition subsequent to a primary or in lieu of a primary election. The law directs the supreme court to give a liberal construction to this statute so that the will of the electors shall not be defeated.

Under the federal constitution, candidates for president and vice president are not voted for directly by the people. They vote for electors, who, in turn, vote for president and vice president.

This technicality is taken advantage of by the state supreme court, and by a 4-to-3 vote the judges hold that the electors are "messengers."

The decision is so devoid of fairness, and so totally ignores the legislative mandate for a liberal construction of the statute, that reaction is alarmed at the popular resentment.

### G. P. O. PRINTERS GAIN; LONG DEADLOCK BROKEN

Washington, Oct. 18.—After a deadlock for five months, during which time a committee representing the printing union, principally employed in the government printing office were negotiating with Public Printer Carter for new rates, a settlement has been agreed upon. After the committee, with the officers of Columbia Typographical union acting in an advisory capacity, had failed to secure a satisfactory proposal from the public printer, President Hays of the International Typographical union was called in and secured terms, after which was unanimously accepted by the committee acting in behalf of the employes. The proposal provides for a general advance over the rate of 90 cents per hour which has been operative since the enactment of the law conferring upon the public printer authority to fix wages. The public printer also withdrew his original proposal that several grades with variable rates of pay for different classes of work be established, which question met with general opposition by the printers.

The new scale, which will be presented to the joint committee on printing of congress for its approval, is as follows: Hand men, 95 cents; readers, make-ups and imposers, $1; operators, $1.06. Night rates are 15 per cent higher than day rates. Overtime and Sunday work, price and one-half; holidays, double price and one-half. This is the first time in the history of the government printing office that price and one-half has been allowed for overtime. Last year's flat rate was 85 cents an hour.

## ED CANTWELL IS DEAD; LOVED BY POSTAL MEN

Washington, Oct. 18.—Edward J. Cantwell, 74, president emeritus of the National Association of Letter Carriers, died in this city following a paralytic stroke. He was active in the efforts in behalf of the postal employes' federal wage bill. The direct cause of his death was pneumonia, which his weakened condition could not resist.

For 25 years he has been annually elected national secretary and editor of the Postal Record. Prior to 1898 he was a member of the letter carriers' legislative committee. At the last convention of his organization he was called from the hall and the delegates then voted him $100 in gold for each year he had served the organization.

To be of more aid to the workers he studied law and was graduated 20 years ago from Georgetown university.

The funeral was held at Brooklyn, his old home. President Gainor and numerous officers and members of the Letter Carriers' association, together with other trade unionists, attended the services. The A. F. of L. was represented by General Organizer Hugh Frayne.

### OPPOSE CHILD LABOR BAN

Dallas, Texas, Oct. 18.—In a speech to bankers in this city, Perry Burrus attacked the federal child labor amendment as an infringement on states' rights and as another parental authority.

Mr. Burrus drew a fearsome picture of what will happen to civilization if this amendment is approved.

Mr. Burrus is a cotton mill owner, and is a large employer of child labor.

### HOW ABOUT TEAPOT DOME?

Washington, Oct. 18.—In a radio talk here, President Coolidge said: "The people of America will keep control and ownership of their property."

### BUTCHERS WIN 12-YEAR STRIKE

Louisville, Ky., Oct. 18.—Organized butcher workmen have won their 12-year strike against the L. P. Barrowsser company of this city. All differences have been adjusted and the firm has signed the eight-hour wage scale of local 227.

## Plotters Against Rule By the People Would Make Congress 'Dependable'

Washington, Oct. 18.—"Reaction must not control the new congress and make it subservient to the president," declares the A. F. of L. non-partisan political committee, in calling upon workers and other forward-looking citizens to vote for the progressive senators and congressmen in their jurisdictions. The committee is issuing 3,000,000 of these statements, which are printed in leaflet form.

"The reactionaries like institutions over which the people have no control," the committee said. "They would like it if the supreme court could be given still more power and if the president's power also could be increased—both of these at the expense of the power of congress. Reaction works wherever it can through those farthest from popular control.

"Congress to be subservient to the chief executive. It is to be snatched out of the constitution by political legerdemain so there will be only two effective branches of government—the executive and judicial.

"Therefore, the edict has gone forth from reactionary headquarters that members of congress elected in November by either of the two big parties must be 'dependable.'

"If the present chief executive—Coolidge—had had a 'dependable' congress there would have been no Teapot Dome investigation.

"The constitution provides for three branches of government—the legislative, executive and judicial. Should the political intriguers fool the people so they will vote for members of congress who will blindly follow the dictates of the chief executive, there will be but two branches of government—executive and judicial."

The A. F. of L. committee urges every believer in our form of government to vote for candidates, irrespective of party affiliation, who have protected the people's interests.

Thirty-three senators sought renomination this year, and six of the most objectionable reactionaries were defeated, the committee states. These are: Ball (R), Delaware; Dial (D), South Carolina; Elkins (R), West Virginia; McCormick (R), Illinois; Shield (D), Tennessee; Sterling (R), South Dakota.

The committee states that in the last election 170 progressive members of the present house of representatives were successful. Not one measure opposed by labor was enacted into law by the present congress.

"Among the most reactionary of the defeated proposals was the scheme of Secretary Mellon and President Coolidge and the consolidated interests to untax the rich and tax the poor. Other vicious proposals were the sales tax, efforts to hush the scandals in government departments that have been partially uncovered, the veto of the postal employes' wage bill and the veto of the soldiers' adjusted compensation."

The committee states that if 50 additional progressive congressmen are elected this fall, or less than that the increase of the last election, this will give the people a bare majority in the house.

## UNDERMANNED MINES CAUSE EXPLOSIONS

Washington, Oct. 18.—If operators would employ more men to inspect gases in mines, there would be fewer explosions is the intimation contained in a study of 256 coal mine explosions by the United States bureau of mines, by which 2,600 are known to a period of 15 years. They killed 4,413 men and injured 570 others.

There is in the bureau's diplomatic charge that mines are undermanned:

"While fire bosses generally try to examine the gas before the men enter the mine in the morning, sometimes, owing to there being too many workings places to inspect, or to taking a chance, some place is neglected, in this way miners entering therein or even upon light ignite an accumulation of gas. The period lapsing between the time of inspection and men entering workings is often too long, and although a working place may be clear when examined, a fall or other cause may result in an accumulation of gas which is accidentally ignited.

"The area assigned to each fire boss should not be too extensive. In some mines each working place must, by law, be examined within three hours before it is entered by the oncoming shift. To do this within the area assigned but a prefunctory examination can be made in some cases, because it is almost impossibility for a man to cover the ground in the time required.

The explosion, costing nearly 100 lives, without doubt was indirectly caused by the evident inability of the fire boss to inspect his section. In fact, it was stated at the time of the explosion that two fire bosses had formerly been employed for the same section."

### CATTLE BRING $12.50; SHOES ARE SAME PRICE

El Paso, Texas, Oct. 18.—Trade reports from the east that the leather market is depressed and shoe manufacturers are increasing their operations, brings this comment from the Labor Advocate:

"We should think so. Cattle selling here in the southwest as low as $12.50 per head, and a real good pair of shoes costing $12, does not look good to the man who is trying to get ahead. There is a lack of proportion here. No wonder the manufacturer can 'increase his operations.' He ought to be able to increase his style of living, his wages, his philanthropies, his charities, in fact, everything that the soul's content with that condition."

### OLD BOGEY REVIVED

New York, Oct. 18.—The Wall Street Journal revives the old bogey that the La Follette seamen's law is harmful legislation. The hardest blow ever dealt this bogey was by Chairman Lasker of the shipping board, who declared at a congressional hearing two years ago:

"I want to take occasion to say here that I think the seamen's act has been one of the most misrepresented acts of which I have ever heard. I came down to Washington believing, as most people in my part of the country do, if you repeal the seamen's act, you would have a merchant marine. That is pure bunk."

### OLD-TIME UNIONIST IS DEAD

Chicago, Oct. 18.—Edward W. Oyster, old-time trade unionist and member of the Typographical union, died suddenly in this city, aged 78 years.

His life was active in the cause of labor. A decade ago he took a prominent part in securing the passage of the national eight-hour law and other legislation.

Just prior to his death he arranged to give several speeches in favor of the election of La Follette and Wheeler.

## RAIL WAGES LOWER; PROFITS INCREASE

New York, Oct. 18.—With profits reaching record heights, class 1 railroads report a lowering of wages for July. An economy wave which last year, the wage cut, through a decrease of employes, totaled $25,279,000. The number of employes involved in a period 181,573, or 9.3 per cent, while wages decreased $25,279,900, or 9.7 per cent.

Reports to the interstate commerce commission show that for this July the cost per passenger train-mile had been lowered.

When the railroad brotherhoods were asking for the eight-hour day, that culminated in the Adamson law, they insisted that if freight trains were speeded up the railroads would be benefited, as would the public. During the past year railroad managements have been abandoning old practices, and their profit sheet indicates that the workers' claim is correct.

In many instances these profits are reaching their highest levels. Net gains for the Chesapeake & Ohio will amount to $11,300,000 for the year, as against last year's previous record of $8,979,430. It is estimated that profits for the Erie railroad will reach the $10,000,000 mark. Officials of the Norfolk & Western predict a 9 per cent profit on their common stock. Similar reports are coming from the Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio, Delaware & Hudson, Lackawanna, and other systems.

### TEACHERS MAY APPEAL UNJUST DISCHARGE

Olympia, Wash., Oct. 18.—School boards in this state can not enforce "yellow dog" contracts which provide for the discharge of teachers at the whim of school authorities. Attorney General Dunbar has notified the superintendent of public instruction that the law provides a teacher can be discharged only for cause.

The attorney general ruled that before a teacher can be released he or she must be given a hearing, and the release must be proved. The school board can not hold that the hearing is superfluous because the teacher waived her right to a hearing when she signed the "yellow dog" contract.

### DON CHAFIN, GUN MAN, JAILED AS BOOTLEGGER

Huntington, W. Va., Oct. 18.—Don Chafin, sheriff of Logan county and commander of the coal operators' gun men in that section, has been found guilty of bootlegging.

Federal Judge McClintic sentenced him to two years in the Atlanta penitentiary and to pay a fine of $10,000. Chafin was no ordinary bootlegger, but violated the prohibition law on instructions of the coal trust. He assembled his army of gun men to terrorize union miners. As sheriff of Logan county he convicted bootleggers who supreme until he ran afoul of the federal government.

### TRAINMEN BACK "BOB"

Minneapolis, Oct. 18.—Unanimous indorsement of La Follette and Wheeler was voted by the Minnesota state legislative representatives of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen at their meeting in this city.

### RETAIL CLERKS GAIN

Chicago, Oct. 18.—An agreement between Retail Clerks' union No. 195 and retail merchants provides for 5 o'clock closing on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

### TEXTILE STRIKERS WIN

Lawrence, Mass., Oct. 18.—Several hundred textile workers employed at the North Village mills of the Slater company have won their strike against a 12½ per cent wage cut.